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MEMORANDUM FOR: Legislative Liaison Officer  
Department of State  
Department of Defense  
Department of Commerce  
Department of the Interior  
Department of the Treasury  
Department of Transportation  
Department of Justice  
National Security Council  
Council on Environmental Quality  
Environmental Protection Agency  
Central Intelligence Agency  
National Science Foundation  
Agency for International Development

SUBJECT: Procedures to Facilitate Coordinated  
Executive Branch Reports on Legislation  
relating to Law of the Sea Matters.

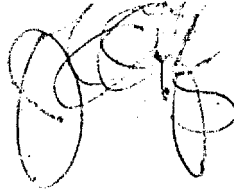
The attached memorandum, which should be self explanatory, outlines the procedures we intend to follow in clearing Executive Branch reports on bills relating to Law of the Sea issues.

With reference to the first item on page 2 of the attachment, please coordinate your activities with those of your representative to the LOS Interagency Task Force to determine the specific bills that will be handled according to these special procedures.

As stated in the memorandum, OMB will circulate proposed reports prepared by the Task Force for agency views, in accordance with regular clearance procedures. We request that you expedite clearance of these reports by checking with your LOS Task Force representative and with other elements of your department or agency as you deem necessary and appropriate.

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If you have any questions concerning these procedures, please contact John Fox (103 x4580) or George R. Gilbert (103 x4710), the Legislative Analyst in this Office.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be "J. F. C. Hyde, Jr.", written in a cursive style.

James F. C. Hyde, Jr.  
Deputy Assistant Director  
for Legislative Reference

Attachment



Approved For Release 2005/11/21 : CIA-RDP75B00380R000400110012-7  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

October 19, 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. James F. C. Hyde, Jr.  
Deputy Assistant Director  
Legislative Reference Division  
Office of Management and Budget

FROM: John Norton Moore *JNM*  
Chairman of the NSC Interagency  
Task Force on Law of the Sea  
Department of State

SUBJECT: Procedures to Facilitate Coordinated  
Executive Branch Comments on Law of  
the Sea Matters

The negotiations for the Third Conference on the Law of the Sea are complex both in terms of substance and in terms of the procedures followed in the Executive Branch for reaching a coordinated U.S. position on substance. At present, there are fourteen Departments or Agencies with representatives that participate in a greater or lesser degree on the NSC Interagency Task Force on the Law of the Sea. These Departments or Agencies are: State, Defense, Commerce, Interior, Treasury, Transportation, Justice, NSC, OMB, CEQ, EPA, NSF, CIA and AID. U.S. positions on various issues concerning the negotiations are developed by the Task Force under the supervision of its Chairman. The coordinated views are then conveyed through its Chairman on behalf of the Task Force.

A particular problem has arisen in connection with reaching coordinated Executive Branch positions on proposed Congressional legislation which could materially affect the law of the sea negotiations. Current examples include pending bills for the establishment of a 200-mile fishing zone off the U.S. pending the outcome of the Law of the Sea Conference.

To facilitate the preparation of coordinated Executive Branch comments on such legislation and related matters it is suggested that the following procedures might be followed:

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1. The Task Force would identify legislation and related matters that could materially affect the law of the sea negotiations and which therefore warranted a coordinated Executive Branch position.

2. Departments or Agencies asked by Congressional Committees for views on those bills identified by the Task Force would refer the matter to the Department of State for the preparation of a coordinated, Executive Branch response by the Interagency Task Force.

3. The Task Force would prepare a reply that would be fully cleared within all affected Departments or Agencies in the Executive Branch.

4. The coordinated Executive Branch response would be signed by the Chairman of the NSC Interagency Task Force on the Law of the Sea on behalf of the affected Departments or Agencies on the Task Force.

5. The Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations in the Department of State would sign a covering letter stating other Departments or Agencies had referred the particular subject to the Department of State for the preparation of a coordinated Executive Branch response by the Interagency Task Force. The Task Force response would be attached to the covering letter and both letters would be forwarded to OMB for regular clearance procedures.

The above procedures are intended to make maximum utilization of established OMB channels. At the same time, they should ensure that the Executive Branch is speaking with one voice on Congressional matters that could materially affect the negotiations for the Third Conference on the Law of the Sea.